

REPORT

## INFORMATION REPORT

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1. The recruitment of militia by the Communists is the duty of the core of Communist land reform workers stationed in the various villages. Although taking the outward appearance of a democratic election, volunteering or special selection, the names of the persons to be recruited are actually secretly determined by Communist Party leaders. The quota to be recruited from each district is graduated according to its population, but a minimum has been fixed at 15 for even the smallest village.
2. The age of the recruits varies from 16 to 36. The percentage is as follows: under 20: 25 percent, over 20: 60 percent, and over 30: 15 percent. Special emphasis is laid on the recruitment of poor farmers without families, and on a small number of hired farm hands and men classified as medium farmers. The volunteering of young men from families of rich farmers or landlords is not welcomed to avoid later dissatisfaction. The Communist militia, therefore, consists largely of unsatisfactory elements recruited mainly from poor and hired farmers. The majority are illiterate or have had only little education. There are only a few middle school students and scarcely any middle school graduates.
3. The smallest unit is the village militia corps, consisting of just ten or more militia. Above this unit is the township militia corps\* consisting of ten or more village militia corps. Each township militia corps headquarters has one chief and from one to two assistant chiefs, all active Communists. Each township militia corps has two medium\*\* militia corps with one chief and one assistant chief, both active Communists. Each medium militia corps again controls two or more sub-township militia corps with a chief and an assistant chief each, both being Communists. Each sub-township militia corps is divided into three village militia corps, the head of which is elected by a "democratic election".
4. Above the township militia corps is the sub-column, and above the sub-column the column. The column is controlled by the district government, and the sub-column and the township militia corps by the sub-district and township governments concerned respectively. However, in accordance with the fixed Communist policy which places the party above the government, all militia

25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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are under strict party surveillance, supervision, and training. The highest authority of a militia column rests with the Communist political representative, that of a sub-column rests with the sub-district Communist Party representative, and that of a township militia corps and its subdivisions with the Communist political instructors attached to such corps and its subdivisions. Above the district, the party control over the militia is under the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party, while the military control is under the Military Control Commission of the Revolutionary Military Council.

5. Fixing the lowest number of militia of each district at 12,000, then the total for the whole country embracing at least 1,000 districts can be roughly estimated to be over 12,000,000. The size of the townships under the Communists is smaller than it was under the Nationalists; for instance, to facilitate suppression of rebellion, a township of 12,000 to 13,000 population has been divided into three townships each containing 4,000 to 5,000 population.

6. [redacted] the training of militia was aimed at Communist indoctrination and discipline. [redacted] non-political military training 25X1 has been enforced in certain districts in south Shantung, north Anhwei, north Kiangsu, and south Kiangsi. The duties and training of the militia are:

- a. To indoctrinate Communist Party principles.
- b. To precipitate class struggle.
- c. To agitate for aid to North Koreans and support Chinese Communists in their fight against [redacted] forces in Korea. 25X1
- d. To humble and suppress landlords.
- e. To provoke attacks against landlords by creating imaginary sins.
- f. To pay strict attention to the movements of villagers.
- g. To observe Nationalist underground movements.
- h. To remove all anti-Communist elements.
- i. To arrest and execute offenders on the instruction of superiors.
- j. To query and search pedestrians and reminding farmers to pay the land tax in kind to the government.
- k. To carry out sealing, confiscate property, and patrol special areas.

7. All arms and ammunition are virtually in the hands of the regular Communist army. The militia is supplied with no other arms than from 10 to 20 pistols and rifles to each township, many of which are in bad condition and for display only. In order to make up for the losses in Korea, the Communists have launched a movement for mass militia participation in the regular army. Except for the approximately 30,000 militia forces recruited from south Shantung, there has been up to [redacted] no similar recruitment in other provinces. 25X1

\* [redacted] Comment. A hsien militia corps is probably meant. 25X1

\*\* [redacted] Comment. This probably indicates a group the size of a company.

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